shipping compainies to acquire fishing vessels; and

(c) if so, what are the detail thereof, including the norms fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Any person who fulfils the requirement of Section 21 of Merchant Shipping Act 1958 can apply to Government for acquisition of vessels. Permission to acquire vessesls is given taking into consideration the need for the Vessels and, in the case of second hand Vessels, also the age of the Vessel, the reasonableness of the price etc.

(b) and, (c) Any Indian company including a shipping company can acquire deep sea fishing Vessel. Shipping companies can apply on prescribed form to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for issue of authorisation to import Vessel.

The Government allow acquisition of deep sea fishing Vessels through general import, indigenous construction and under 100% export oriented scheme. Acquisition of deep sea fishing Vessel is also allowed to joint Venture company for operation in Indian waters. In case of general import scheme, entrepreneurs have to acquire one Vessel indigenously against the import of two Vessels (paripassu condition). In case of 100% export oriented scheme this condition is not applicable.

Development of inland waterways with Soviet assistance

58. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development at Inland Waterways with the Soviet assistance;

(b) if so, what are the details of the waterways proposed to be developed with the help of Soviet Union;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed with USSR in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) A three member Indian delegation had visited Soviet Union in September, 1988 to explore the possibility of techno-economic cooperation in IWT matter. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by them with the Soviet side. The USSR has shown interest in mutual cooperation for development of IWT including possible supply of IWT Vessels, training of personnel, etc. Soviet side have also agreed to arrange demonstration of passenger Vessels on Indian waterways after working out the mutually agreed programme for the purpose.

Declaration of ancient monuments in Orissa

59.SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 684 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th November, 1988 and state what are the details of various measures taken for the proper preservation of monuments and sites identified for conservation in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) : Besidses annual maintenance and upkeep of the monuments / sites structural repairs like removal of accretionary plaster, replacement of architectural members, consolidation of the structures, grouting, filling up of cracks and fissures, pointing, extraction of salts by chemical process and preservation replacement of worn out structural members and resetting of loose slabs properly are carried out as per the actual needs of the monuments under central protection in Orissa, referred to

in Rajya Sabha Unstarred question 684 answered on 16th November, 1988.

Repair of railway bridge in Bhadrak-Kharagpur section

60. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bridge at Nuagan-Mayurbhanj Road Passenger Halt on Western side of railway line of Bhadrak-Kharagpur Section of Kharagpur Railway Division has been completely damaged and is causing danger to the railway traffic; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken for its repair/ reconstruction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The bridge referred to is a small culvert, located on the kutcha pathway leading to the level crossing, and is repaired as and when necessary.

Special mobile task force for ticketless passengers and chain pullers

61. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have deployed special mobile task force in the areas where the incidence of ticketless travelling and chain pullings are unusually high;

(b) if so, which are the areas where such incidents are high and what steps have been taken in this regard; and

(c) what is the number of persons caught in those areas during the last two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, regular ticket checking squads exercise greater vigilance where incidence of ticketless travel and unauthorised alarm chain pulling is high. Statements of sections with high ticketless travelling and chain pulling are attached. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 5]

(c) Area-wise figures are not maintained. 126.92 lakh persons were detected travelling without ticket or with improper ticket and 1979 were apprehended for unauthorised chain pulling during the last two years on the Railways.

Progress in the setting up of sambalpur railway division

62. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made so far in the setting up of Sambalpur Railway Division; and

(b) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Construction work of offices and quarters is in progress. Staff and Officers are being posted at Sambalpur as per requirements. The time by which the division will become fully operational will depend upon the availability of resources.

Survey of rail line from Khurdha road Bolangir via Phulabani in Orissa

63. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reconsider the proposals to undertake the survey of some railway lines in the country; and